

Copyright

What the Google Books Project mean for your library?

The smaller your library collection, the more you have to gain from access to the Google Books Library Project. Find out why major libraries like Harvard are allowing their collections to be scanned for the project and how you and your users can benefit from the project. Australian libraries will be able to access a world of material that was never possible before.

Google Books Library Project

This project is an effort by Google to scan and make searchable the collections of a number of major research libraries. The Google Books Library Project involves libraries, and it is in addition to the Google Books Partner Program, which involves publishers and authors. Together the two, the project and the program, comprise Google Book Search. The older works held by the major research libraries complement the newer works (that are often provided in sample only by publishers), The libraries project is a good source of out-of-print and orphan works whereas the publishers program mainly gives limited sample access to in-print material.

Why libraries are participating in the project:

- It is a safeguard against catastrophic loss of books occasioned by natural disasters such as earthquakes;
- it allows users to identify books of interest with a precision and speed previously unimaginable;
- it makes our collections accessible worldwide;
- it once was the case that only those who could visit our library were able to 'visit' our books.

For books that enter Google Books through the Library Project, what you can see depends on the book's copyright status. If the book is out of copyright, you can view the entire book and even download it. But if the book is under copyright, and the publisher or author is not part of the Partner Program, only basic information is shown about the book, similar to a card catalogue, and, in some cases, a few snippets or sentences of your search terms in context.

What you see when you search on Google Books

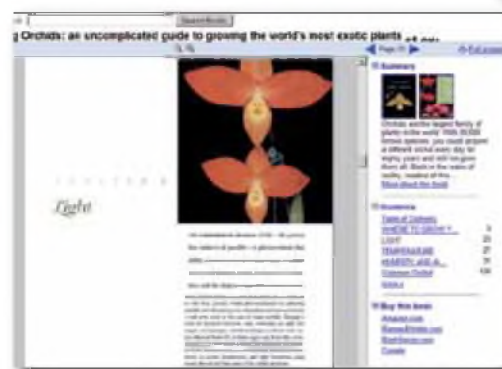
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Snippet view

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To learn how to get the best out of searching Google Books look at video user stories at <http://books.google.com/googlebooks/userstories.html>, which shows how users have used it for blogs on dresses, medical research, and family history.



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Currently reading *The Justice Game* by Geoffrey Robertson